

Community Presbyterian Church

open hearted, open minded

3705 Fairway Place NW, Rochester, MN • www.cpcrochester.org • 507-280-9291



Liberating Love: Healing Laws

October 4, 2020

Welcome to worship this morning!

*Bulletin Cue: **Bold** indicates congregational response.*

We hope to see you again soon!

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD OF GOD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

The heavens are telling the glory of God;
the skies proclaim the Creator's handiwork.

They have no speech, they use no words,
yet their witness goes out through all the earth.

Let us join the chorus of creation and raise our voices in praise.

**May the words of our mouths and the songs of our hearts
be pleasing to the Beloved!**

OPENING HYMN GTG 66

Every Time I Feel the Spirit

both verses

Refrain

Ev - ery time I feel the Spir - it mov - ing in my
heart I will pray. Yes, ev - ery time I feel the
Spir - it mov - ing in my heart I will pray. *Fine*

1 Up - on the moun - tain, when my Lord spoke, out of God's
 2 Jor - dan Riv - er, chil - ly and cold, it chills the

mouth came fire and smoke. Looked all a - round me, it looked so
 bod - y but not the soul. There is but one train up - on this

to Refrain
 fine, till I asked my Lord if all was mine.
 track. It runs to heav - en and then right back.

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CALL TO CONFESSION

It is only by the power of God that we are able to stand against evil.

Trusting in God's grace, let us examine our lives.

CONFESSION

God of the Covenant, long ago you gave us the law
 to guide us in the ways of righteousness.

When we wandered, you called prophets to call us to faithfulness.

In the fullness of time, you sent your Son
 to heal our brokenness and draw us close to you.

But, time and again, we reject your gift of grace.

We forget your command to serve the least of these,
 and neglect to nurture our relationship with you.

Forgive us. Come to us again and set us on right paths.

Sow within us seeds of mercy and love

so that we might produce the fruits of your realm.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Now stand firm in your faith, covered by the saving grace of God and ready to proclaim
 the gospel of peace. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

Thanks be to God.

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

SPECIAL MUSIC *Be Thou My Vision* The Front Steps, featuring Karen Ballew
Traditional Folk Hymn”, English translation by Mary Byrne, arrangement is by The Front Steps

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Let the fire of your Spirit open our hearts and minds to your word, O God. Help us to hear your voice and follow your paths all the days of our lives. **Amen**

SCRIPTURE READING Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20

Then God spoke all these words: I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name. Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work.

Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you. You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

When all the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking, they were afraid and trembled and stood at a distance, and said to Moses, “You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, or we will die.” Moses said to the people, “Do not be afraid; for God has come only to test you and to put the fear of him upon you so that you do not sin.”

RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 19

**The heavens are telling the glory of God;
and the firmament proclaims your handiwork.**

A: Day speaks to day of your story; night unto night makes it known.
No speech, no word, no voice is heard; yet their message fills the world.

B: In the heavens, you pitched your tent for the sun to rest and rise;
like a bridegroom coming from his chamber, like an athlete eager to race.

A: It springs from the edge of the earth and runs its course across the sky
till it reaches the far horizon; nothing escapes its heat.

B: The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul;
Your rule is sure, making wise the simple.

A: Your precepts are right, gladdening the heart;
Your command is clear, enlightening the eyes;

B: Fear of you, O God, is pure, enduring forever;
All your decrees are faithful and just.

A: They are more to be desired than the purest gold;
And sweeter than honey dripping from the comb.

B: By them you teach your servants; keeping them brings great reward.
But who can discern their own failings? Clear me from hidden faults.

A: Restrain me, too, from wilful sins, lest they take me over.
Then I will be truly healed by your law.

**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.**

SCRIPTURE READING

Philippians 3:4b-14

Paul writes: "If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

"Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus."

SERMON

Liberating Love: Healing Laws

Pastor Jan

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

HYMN OF THE DAY GTG 49

The God of Abraham Praise

vs. 2 and 3



2 Your spir - it still flows free, high surg - ing where it will.
3 Your good - ly land we seek, with peace and plen - ty blest,



In proph - et's word you spoke of old and you speak still.
a land of sa - cred lib - er - ty and Sab - bath rest.



Es - tab - lished is your law, and change - less it shall stand,
There milk and hon - ey flow, and oil and wine a - bound,



deep writ up - on the hu - man heart by your strong hand.
and trees of life for - ev - er grow with mer - cy crowned.

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JOYS AND CONCERNS/PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God, our Savior,

hear our prayer.

OFFERING GIFTS OF GRATITUDE

(In lieu of a time of offering, people are invited to unmute one by one and share something that has inspired gratitude or given them hope in this past week; when all who desire to do so have spoken, we will collectively pray in response.)

PRAYER

God of life, of all life and of each life, we lay our own lives before you; we give our lives to you. In this time of global crisis, we give thanks for all your continued care, not for us alone, but for your whole suffering and precious world. We are yours, today and eternally.

Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE AND GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise

It is truly right and our great joy to give you thanks and praise, O Lord our God, creator and ruler of the universe... Therefore we praise you, joining the song of the universal church and the heavenly choir:

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (GTG 593) Holy, Holy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, God of
pow - er, God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Blessed is the
One, blessed is the One, blessed is the One who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na! Ho -
san - na! Ho - san - na in the high - est!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION/ BREAKING OF THE BREAD

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

THE BREAD AND CUP ARE SHARED

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

In deep gratitude for this moment, this meal, these people, we give ourselves to you. Take us out to live as changed people because we have shared the Living Bread and cannot remain the same. Ask much of us, expect much from us, enable much by us, encourage many through us. **Amen.**

SENDING INTO THE WORLD TO LOVE AND SERVE

CLOSING HYMN GTG 332

The Right Hand of God

vs. 1 and 2



1 The right hand of God is writ - ing in our land, writ - ing with
2 The right hand of God is point - ing in our land, point - ing the



pow - er and with love; our con - flicts and our fears, our
way we must go; so cloud - ed is the way, so



tri - umphs and our tears, are re - cord - ed by the right hand of God.
eas - i - ly we stray, but we're guid - ed by the right hand of God.

CHARGE AND BLESSING

Christ's food in our souls; **our food shared like his.**

Christ's life in our hands; **our lives shaped by his.**

Christ's love in our hearts; **our love warmed through his.**

Christ's peace on our path, **our path following his.**

May the everlasting God shield you, east and west and wherever you go.

And the blessing of the God of life, the blessing of the Christ of love,

and the blessing of the Spirit of grace be upon you now and forever. **Amen**



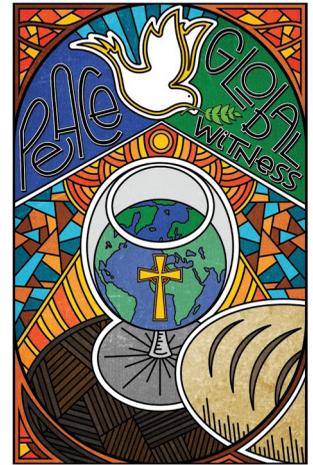
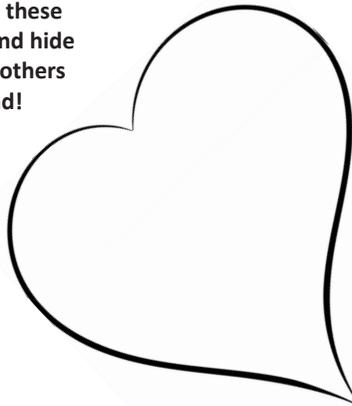
PEACEMAKER

NOTES

BE A

PEACEMAKER!

Write messages of
peace on these
cut-outs and hide
them for others
to find!



PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
PEACEMAKING AND RECONCILIATION

This week, we collect the Peacemaking and Global Witness Offering.

Together we are building God's household of peace where everyone is welcome; where all can find compassion, peace and justice. Twenty-Five percent of the offering will go to the Diversity Council, here in Rochester.

Community Presbyterian Church

open hearted, open minded

TODAY AT CPC

Sunday, October 4

9:30 am Online Worship Service
with Communion

THIS WEEK AT CPC

Monday, October 5

10:00 am PW Bible Study

Tuesday, October 6

12:00 pm Conference Call *

12:00 pm Bulletin Information Due

6:00 pm Brain Injury Support Group

7:00 pm Christian Education Committee

Wednesday, October 7

6:30 am Prayer Group

Friday, October 9

12:00 pm Conference Call *

Sunday, October 11

9:30 am Online Worship Service



Judy Leal
Jane, Ed, Jenny, Elissa and
the Burgstaler grandchildren
Connie Holst
MariLynn Johnson
Vera Atkinson's great-grandson,
Kaiden Nelson

*To be added to the prayer list,
please contact the church office at
507-280-9291 or
email office@cpcrochester.org.
For emergency pastoral care,
call Pastor Jan at 763-219-2927.*

Online Worship

Sundays 9:30 – 10:30am

<https://meet.google.com/vao-wjef-cbe>

+1 575-305-4527 PIN: 652 821 468 #

* Tuesday/Friday Conference Call

<https://meet.google.com/kee-rcys-sdh>

+1 413-889-2244 PIN: 433 818 991#

Pastor	Rev. Jan Wiersma
Choir Director	Meg Cain
Handbell Director	Judy Kereakos
Pianist	Glenna Muir
Custodian	Nancy Sanford
Office Manager	Stephanie Pasch

Serving in Worship Today

Liturgist	Sherrie Wilson
IT Support	Ronda and Bill Marshall